

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 00806 290415Z  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 IO-13 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-07 (ISO) W

-----290500Z 105011 /22

O R 290341Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1805

INFO CINCPAC

DIR DIA WASHDC

ACSI DA WASHDC

CJCS WASHDC

CINCUNC

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR KS KN

SUBJ: NORTH KOREAN JANUARY 25 LETTER

REFS: (A) SSOKOREA 0282, 271413Z JAN 77

(B) SSO KOREA 28125Z 28 JAN 77

(C) SEOUL 0704

1. UNC REPORTED 27 JANUARY CONVERSATION BETWEEN NORTH KOREAN MAJ GEN HAN, SENIOR KPA MAC MEMBER, AND SWISS (VAN MUYDEN) AND SWEDE (WERNSTEDT), NNSC MEMBERS (REF A). HAN SAID THAT (A) THE LETTER ADOPTED AT THE PYONGYANG POLITICAL RALLY JANUARY 25, 1977, WAS WRITTEN PERSONALLY BY KIM IL SONG AND WAS HIS RESPONSE TO ROK PRESIDENT PAK CHONG HUI'S CALL FOR A NON-AGGRESSION PACT AND DIALOGUE, AND (B) KIM ALSO STATES THAT IF THE KOREAN SITUATION IS RESOLVED BY FORCE OF ARMS, IT WILL INCLUDE NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND INVOLVE THE WHOLE WORLD.

2. AT SUBSEQUENT MEETING WITH U.S. AND ROK MILITARY OFFICERS ATTACHED TO UNC JANUARY 28, VAN MUYDEN EMPHASIZED THAT IN HIS CONFIDENTIAL

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VIEW THE NORTH KOREAN PROPOSAL WAS A PROPAGANDA PLOY AND CONTAINED ABSOLUTELY NOTHING NEW. HE THOUGHT THE NORTH KOREANS HAD USED THIS TACTIC TO COUNTER THE ROK NON-AGGRESSION PACT PROPOSAL AND HAD TAKEN POSITION WHICH WOULD LEAD THOSE WHO DID NOT STUDY THE NORTH'S PROPOSAL FROM HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE TO BELIEVE THAT NK HAD MADE EFFORT TO SOLVE KOREAN QUESTION. HE EMPHASIZED THAT PROPOSAL WAS NOT ADDRESSED TO ROKG AND

WAS REPEAT OF PROPOSALS WHICH NORTH KNEW WERE UNACCEPTABLE TO ROKG. VAN MUYDEN BELIEVED THAT, BY PASSING OUT COPIES OF LETTER TO UNGA DELEGATES IN NEW YORK, NK WAS ONLY TRYING TO CAPITALIZE ON PROPAGANDA BENEFITS. AT SAME MEETING WERNSTEDT SAID THAT HE FELT LETTER CONTAINED NOTHING SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT FROM PAST NK PROPOSALS.

3. CZECH NNSC MEMBER, COL. VELLA, WHO, TOGETHER WITH POLISH NNSC REP MG CZERWINSKI, HAD DISCUSSED SAME SUBJECT WITH HAN TWO HOURS PRIOR TO HAN'S DISCUSSION WITH SWISS/SWEDE REPS, TOLD SENIOR UNC MAC REP MG SINGLAUB THAT WHAT HAN TOLD HIM DID NOT CONTAIN ANYTHING NEW OR DIFFERENT FROM WHAT HE HAD READ IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE VERSIONS OF ROK NEWSPAPERS (REF C).

4. COMMENT: BELIEVE VAN MUYDEN'S PROPAGANDA POINT IS WELL TAKEN. NK PROPOSAL DESIGNED TO MESH WITH THEIR QUOTE PEACE OFFENSIVE UNQUOTE AND GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE NORTH HAS SERIOUSLY RESPONDED TO THE ROK NON-AGGRESSION PACT/TROOP WITHDRAWAL PROPOSAL. ATTRIBUTION OF AUTHORSHIP OF THE LETTER TO KIM IL SONG IS PROBABLY DESIGNED TO FURTHER ENHANCE THE CREDIBILITY OF THE LETTER AS A LEGITIMATE RESPONSE TO PRESIDENT PAK'S JANUARY 12 NON-AGGRESSION PACT SPEECH.

5. WE HAVE INFORMED ROKG OF DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED ABOVE.  
SNEIDER

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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